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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Altenburg Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 28 February to 11 March 1950

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 27 April 1950

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The Altenburg (W 51/K 27) airfield was still occupied by 30 to 35 twin-engine transports (covered with tarpaulins) between 28 February and 10 March 1950. There were still 500 to 600 personnel, including a parachute unit. Two aircraft circled the airfield on 28 February 1950. There was no flying on the other days because of bad weather and saturated landing field.

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2. The landing field was being expanded. There were 70 men and 30 women employed.
3. Thirty twin-engine DC-3 transports were counted at the field on 11 March 1950. Soviet Air Force officers and EW were seen near the barracks buildings at the field. Weather was hazy and there was no flying.
4. No construction work was being done at the airfield. Expansion work was under way north of the road running along the northern edge of the field. This area, staked off by 20-cm pegs, was apparently to be graded. The landing field was also being expanded to the west by 150 to 200 meters. Four construction sheds, one with the inscription BGL-Leitung (BGL-Management), were set up in the expansion area. There was a wooden sign with the inscription VEB-Baunion Sued, Bauleitung Jena (W 51/J 66) (VEB Construction Union South, Jena Construction Management). The number of narrow-gauge field rails in the northern construction site was increased. There were 50 dumpcars. Most of the construction material consisted of beams and of boards 3-meters long. about 70 workers were employed there.

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Comment:

The occupation of the airfield has not changed recently. Expansion work north of the field has been confirmed, but the expansion to the west is reported for the first time. No information has been received on the schedule date for completion of expansion work.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence and the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

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